(e) Government of India is implementing various employment generation schemes for generating additional employment in Rural and Urban areas as details given below:—

As per Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation, under the scheme of Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), annual physical target for the number of urban poor to be assisted for setting up individual/group micro enterprises and number of urban poor to be imparted skill training are fixed at the national level on the basis of financial allocation made for the scheme in the Annual Plan/Budget.

A new scheme called 'Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP)' started in August, 2008 for 2008-09 to 2012-13 is being implemented with an estimated expenditure of Rs. 4735 crore towards margin money and Rs. 250 crore towards backward forward linkages with the target for generation of 37.37 lakh additional employment opportunities.

Recognizing the serious problem of unemployment, the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) was enacted on 7.9.2005. NREGA provides for the enhancement of livelihood security of the households in rural areas of the country by providing at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in every financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. A very significant feature of this Act is that if a worker who has applied for work under NREGA is not provided employment within 15 days from the date on which work is requested, an unemployment allowance shall be payable by the State Government at the rate prescribed in the Act.

Shortage of skilled manpower

953. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MS. MABEL REBELLO:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is facing shortage of skilled manpower and Government has set an ambitious goal of having 500 million trained technicians by 2020;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government proposes to open up the public stock of buildings of educational institutions at the high school level and above after class hours for those agencies which are engaged in skill development of our youth; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) No such survey have been conducted by Ministry of Labour and Employment. However, as per National sample survey organization (NSSO) 61st round survey report, every year 12.8 million persons are added to the labour force. However, at present about 3.1 million persons are trained by various agencies involved in vocational training.

Prime Minister's National Council on Skill Development, an apex body for policy direction and review, has set a target to train 500 million persons by 2022.

(c) and (d) Prime Minister's National Council on Skill Development in its meeting had on 3.11.2008 has adopted Vision, Strategy and Core Principles; of which Para 2(e) states ".. If we need to game change delivery, an alternative model could be to make available every public institution, numbering over 2 lakhs in the country, above the high school level, after class hours for skill development by the private sector. Necessary regulations could be brought in by the local management authority of the particular educational institution...."

Retrenchment due to Economic Recession

954. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI:
SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that companies resorted to retrenching workers as a result of the economic recession;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has any mechanism to monitor the job loss of workers in the private sector due to retrenchment; and

(d) if so, details of the number of workers retrenched during the last three months?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) No exhaustive survey/study has been conducted regarding retrenchment of employees due to economic slowdown. However, a sample study has been conducted by the Labour Bureau, Chandigarh to assess the impact of economic slowdown on employment in various sectors like Mining, Textiles, Metals, Gems and Jewellery, Automobile, Transport and IT/BPO for the period October-December, 2008 in the country. According to the Study, the total employment in all the sectors covered by the survey went down from 16.2 million during September, 2008 to 15.7 million during December, 2008 resulting in job loss of about half a million persons.

(c) and (d) Labour Bureau, Shimla compiles data with regard to job loss of workers in the organized sector (both in private and public sector) based on the returns submitted by the State and Central agencies. As per the report on effect of Economic Slowdown on Employment in India, the estimated loss of employment in mining, textiles, metals, gems and jewellery, automobile, and transport sectors during October-December, 2008 is 567021.

Study on impact of climate change and global warming

955. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether unprecedented rains and floods in various parts of the country are due to climate change/global warming;

(b) if so, the details thereof;